

# Production Staff

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Producing Artistic Director	Lisa Cesnik Ferguson
Associate Artistic Director & Program Coordinator	Danielle Bailey Miller
Education Coordinator	Sondra McCoy
Production Coordinator	Susan Lane
Summer Academy Director	Danielle Bailey Miller
Education Associate	Amanda Hill
Volunteer Coordinator	Kaye Moshtael

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

### *Twelfth Night or What You Will*

Twelfth Night is traditionally celebrated on the 12th day after Christmas. Epiphany, as it is called in the Catholic Church, commemorates the visit of the 3 Magi to the baby Jesus. In Shakespeare's time, it was a day of revelry. The world was turned upside down in the carnival like celebration where servants dressed like masters and masters like servants.

The first recorded performance of Twelfth Night was on February 2, 1602 so it did not occur on 12th night proper, but many believe that it was written to be part of the 12th night festivities. And yet Samuel Pepys, a naval administrator, whose diaries have become famous saw the original production of Twelfth Night and wrote, "but a silly play, and not relating at all to the name or day."

Some say the play is set on 12th night, but when speaking of Malvolio's disturbing behavior, Olivia says, "Why, this is very midsummer madness." Midsummer falls on June 21st. In the "epiphany" scene, both Orsino and Antonio claim that Viola has been with him for three months. So the play begins mid-March and ends mid-June, no where near 12th night.

So why is Shakespeare's play called Twelfth Night anyway? No one knows for certain. Twelfth Night is Shakespeare's only play to have a subtitle. Perhaps William couldn't decide just what to call his text and simply said, "Let it be called Twelfth Night or what you will."